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CANADA

House of Commons Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT

Thursday, January 12, 1939

FOURTH SESSION—EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT—OPENING

The parliament which had been prorogued from time to time to the twelfth day of January, 1939, met this day at Ottawa, for the dispatch of business.

The house met at three o'clock, the Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Speaker read a communication from the Governor General's secretary, announcing that His Excellency the Governor General would proceed to the Senate chamber at three p.m. on this day, for the purpose of formally opening the session of the dominion parliament.

A message was delivered by Major A. R. Thompson, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, as follows:

Mr. Speaker, His Excellency the Governor General desires the immediate attendance of this honourable house in the chamber of the honourable the Senate.

Accordingly the house went up to the Senate chamber.

And the house being returned to the Commons chamber:

VACANCIES

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the house that during the recess I received communications from several members, notifying me that the following vacancies had occurred in the representation, viz:

Of Frederick Cronyn Betts, Esquire, member for the electoral district of London, by decease;

Of Alexander McKay Edwards, Esquire, member for the electoral district of Waterloo South, by decease;

Of Samuel William Jacobs, Esquire, member for the electoral district of Cartier, by decease;

Of David Wilson Beaubier, Esquire, member for the electoral district of Brandon, by decease.

I accordingly issued my several warrants to the chief electoral officer to make out new writs of election for the said electoral districts, respectively.

NEW MEMBERS

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the house that the clerk of the house has received from the chief electoral officer certificates of the election and return of the following members, viz:

Of Peter Bercovitch, Esquire, for the electoral district of Cartier;

Of Karl K. Homuth, Esquire, for the electoral district of Waterloo South;

Of the Hon. Robert James Manion, for the electoral district of London;

Of James Ewen Matthews, Esquire, for the electoral district of Brandon.

NEW MEMBERS INTRODUCED

Hon. Robert James Manion, member for the electoral district of London, introduced by Mr. Robert Smeaton White and Hon. Earl Lawson.

Peter Bercovitch, Esquire, member for the electoral district of Cartier, introduced by Right Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King and Hon. Fernand Rinfret.

James Ewen Matthews, Esquire, member for the electoral district of Brandon, introduced by Right Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King and Hon. T. A. Crerar.

Karl K. Homuth, Esquire, member for the electoral district of Waterloo South, introduced by Hon. R. J. Manion and Hon. H. A. Stewart.

HON. R. J. MANION

CONGRATULATIONS UPON HIS ELECTION AS LEADER
OF THE NATIONAL CONSERVATIVE PARTY AND
OF HIS MAJESTY'S LOYAL OPPOSITION

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, with your permission and the permission of hon. members of the house, I should like to extend to my hon. friend immediately opposite (Mr. Manion), not only personally but on behalf of all hon. members, very warm congratulations upon assuming, as he does to-day, the office of leader of His Majesty's Loyal Opposition in